

Remarks

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed on July 20, 2005. Claim 1 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2, 4, 5, and 9 are rewritten in independent form. Claims 3 and 8 are amended to depend from claim 2. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

In section 2 of the Action, claims 1, 3, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Bernard, U.S. Patent No. 6,450,458. This rejection is respectfully traversed, and the correctness of the rejection is not conceded. Reconsideration is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

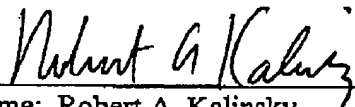
Claim 1 is canceled, and allowable claim 2 is rewritten in independent form. Claims 3 and 8 are amended to depend from claim 2. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 3 and 8 are therefore respectfully requested.

In section 3 of the Action, claims 2, 4-7, and 9 were noted as being allowable, and claims 10-15 were noted as being allowed. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's assistance in identifying allowable subject matter. All claims should be in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,  
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